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Mexico

Post: Mexico

Cotton Situation - September Update

Report Categories:

Cotton and Products

Pest/Disease Occurrences

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Report Highlights:

Total Mexican cotton production for marketing year (MY) 2010/11 (August/July) has been adjusted downward to approximately 607,000 bales. The La Laguna (Durango and Coahuila) area was affected by a cotton fungus caused by excessive rain and moisture due to the after effects of Hurricane Alex that reduced La Laguna planted area and production estimates by 30 and 35 percent, respectively. However, attractive international prices and a revised government program (see 2010 Cotton and Products Annual - [GAIN MX0021](#)) have enticed producers to replant previously unproductive stretches of land in northern Mexico. This newly planted area should offset some production decreases in the country.

General Information:**Production:**

Recent data from the Confederation of Mexican Cotton Associations (CMCA) indicates that the after effects of Hurricane Alex in northern Mexico are hitting the La Laguna area hardest. Excessive rain and moisture promoted a viruela infestation, hosted by insects endemic to the area residing in navajita grasses, and devastated production in an estimated 7,000 hectares of planted area. This amounts to a total production decrease of nearly 8 percent in bales compared to previous forecasts (from 659,000 to 607,009 bales). In addition, total planted area has been revised downward 8.4 percent (from 116,500 to 106,674 hectares).

The current estimates for La Laguna planted area and production are 16,100 hectares and 104,650 bales, respectively. This is a decrease of 30 percent in planted area and 35 percent in production from previous estimates (23,000 hectares and 161,000 bales). Despite the significant impact to this important production area, the recent re-introduction of cotton to 5,500 hectares in northern Tamaulipas should offset some of the effects of Hurricane Alex on total Mexican production.

According to industry reports, in spite of damage to irrigation canals in the Mexicali area from the April 4, 2010, earthquake, cotton developed well in the area as beneficial weather conditions occurred and improved water supplies developed once canals were repaired. This allowed the region to offset the negative effects of the earthquake on production and begin cotton ginning operations on September 1, 2010. According to the CMCA, ginning will continue for another two and one-half months.

Trade:

The Mexican market offers a steady demand stream to American suppliers. The United States remains the leading cotton supplier to Mexico and accounts for nearly 100 percent of total cotton imports. Cotton imports are forecast at 1.6 million bales in MY 2010/11.

Production, Supply and Demand Data Statistics :

Table 1. Mexico: Cotton Production by State/Region - MY 2010/11

Region	Planted Area (Ha)	Yield (Bales/Ha)	Production (Bales)
Southern Sonora	3,000	6.0	18,000
Mexicali, Baja California	21,000	6.0	126,000
Juarez, Chihuahua	8,169	5.0	40,845
Delicias, Chihuahua	25,735	4.5	126,994
Ojinaga-Aldama, Chihuahua	27,170	6.0	163,020
La Laguna (Durango-Coahuila)	16,100	6.5	104,650
Northern Tamaulipas	5,500	5.0	27,500
TOTAL	106,674	5.69	607,009

Source: Confederation of Mexican Cotton Associations